

INVESTIGATION OF THE ASSASSINATION
OF MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

HEARING
BEFORE THE
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ASSASSINATIONS
OF THE
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
NINETY-FIFTH CONGRESS
SECOND SESSION

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Mr. LANE. What we have, which you have labeled exhibit F-56; MLK, are portions of reprints of four different pages.

Chairman STOKES. Do you have copies of the entire newspaper here, counsel?

Mr. LANE. I beg your pardon?

Chairman STOKES. The entire front page is—

Mr. LANE. I think the two of them put together do end up being the front page, in one case, and two unidentified, almost illegible other pages. I wonder if we could know the page number, the newspaper, date, something which would make this a document which we can deal with, as one would ordinarily do in a court.

Mr. PREYER. Perhaps the clerk will—

Chairman STOKES. It is the Selma Times Journal, March 21.

Mr. LANE. Now what we have—

Chairman STOKES. We are not asking for testimony from counsel about what he has. We are merely furnishing him at this point a copy of an exhibit from which I request the right to interrogate.

Mr. LANE. We would like to have this second page identified. We don't know what newspaper, what date or what page. It is not identified.

Mr. PREYER. Mr. Stokes may proceed with his questioning, then if there are questions about identifying it, we will attempt—

Mr. LANE. I will object to any question about this unidentified newspaper, page, and date.

Chairman STOKES. Mr. Chairman, we are showing the witness a copy of the Selma Times Journal, the front page, dated March 21, 1968.

Has the witness had a chance to review it?

Mr. RAY. I think you wanted me to read about the—

Chairman STOKES. All right. Did you when you arrived in Selma purchase a newspaper?

Mr. RAY. No, sir; it was nighttime when I arrived.

Chairman STOKES. Calling your attention to that exhibit, you see an article there entitled "King Henchman Promises Tie-Up Of Washington With Shanties."

Mr. RAY. Yes, I see that.

Mr. LANE. I object to any question about this undated, unnumbered, untitled page. We are entitled to know what this comes from.

Mr. PREYER. We will see what the question is.

Mr. LANE. He asked the question, Mr. Preyer. He has asked the question. That is why I am objecting under your rule 3.5.

Mr. PREYER. I believe the clerk is putting this together here in the form of a full front page of a newspaper. Perhaps it would be more understandable for you.

Mr. LANE. We have the front page. It is the undated, untitled, unnumbered page, which the question was asked about. That is not the front page.

Chairman STOKES. It is all one page. It is all one page.

Mr. LANE. All one page?

Mr. PREYER. It makes up the front page of the paper?

Chairman STOKES. Yes.

Mr. PREYER. We will present this in this form to you. I think counsel fully understands it is one page.

Mr. LANE. Yes. That is fine, thank you.

Chairman STOKES. All, seen this newspaper with the title Tie-Up Of Washington article Dr. King is in the are in Selma?

Mr. RAY. Yes. I didn't see it, naturally, so it says—

Chairman STOKES. March 21, 1968. Mr. RAY. March 21. I was already gone when I—

Chairman STOKES. At a reason for being in Selma gotten onto the wrong road.

Mr. RAY. That is correct.

Mr. LANE. Is it not true that you arrived in Selma? Isn't that the questions about? You have on the 22d, then showing w—

I think that is very misleading standing exactly what it is you—

Chairman STOKES. I think you do think so.

Mr. RAY. I am sure I would not be on the newspaper article.

Chairman STOKES. OK. Mr. RAY. I drove on March 23, 1968, to Garner's roominghouse; is that correct?

Mr. RAY. That is correct.

Chairman STOKES. And the rifle? Didn't you?

Mr. RAY. That is correct.

Chairman STOKES. Then you were at a local motel near the downtown Selma? Did you see the 30.06 rifle?

Mr. RAY. That is correct; yes.

Chairman STOKES. Using that rifle? Using that rifle?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Chairman STOKES. Now, you were after purchasing the rifle you saw? True?

Mr. RAY. That is correct, yes.

Chairman STOKES. Do you have that statement?

Mr. RAY. No, I don't want many documents you have up there. If I did, I will just take them on TV.

Chairman STOKES. Well, you believe it was April 4, 1968? Chairman STOKES. And then Mr. RAY. At one time I thought I left on the 30th, heard

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Chairman STOKES. All right. Mr. Ray, do you recall ever having seen this newspaper with this article entitled "King Henchman Promises Tie-Up Of Washington With Shanties," which indicates in the article Dr. King is in the Linden-Camden area at the same time you are in Selma?

Mr. RAY. Yes. I didn't have no advanced knowledge of his movements, naturally, so it says here, this paper is dated—

Chairman STOKES. March 21.

Mr. RAY. March 21. I was in Selma on March 22. In other words, he was already gone when I arrived there.

Chairman STOKES. At any rate, so that we understand, your sole reason for being in Selma was that it was nighttime and you had gotten onto the wrong road?

Mr. RAY. That is correct.

Mr. LANE. Is it not true this paper came out the day before Mr. Ray arrived in Selma? Isn't that the fact? If so, what are we asking these questions about? You have given him a receipt showing he was there on the 22d, then showing what was in the newspaper the day before. I think that is very misleading, unless the American people are understanding exactly what it is you are trying to do here.

Chairman STOKES. I think the American people can understand.

Mr. LANE. I do think so.

Mr. RAY. I am sure I wouldn't buy a newspaper a day old. It probably wouldn't be on the newsstand. I am positive I never saw that article.

Chairman STOKES. OK Mr. Ray, after leaving Birmingham, you drove on March 23, 1968, to Atlanta, and you then took a room at Garner's roominghouse; is that correct?

Mr. RAY. That is correct.

Chairman STOKES. And then you stayed in Atlanta until March 28, didn't you?

Mr. RAY. That is correct.

Chairman STOKES. Then you went to Birmingham where you stayed at a local motel near the downtown area. This is when you purchased the 30.06 rifle?

Mr. RAY. That is correct; yes, sir.

Chairman STOKES. Using the name Harvey Loemeyer, instead of your correct name?

Mr. RAY. Yes.

Chairman STOKES. Now, you said in your statement to us here that after purchasing the rifle you didn't return to Atlanta, isn't that true?

Mr. RAY. That is correct, yes.

Chairman STOKES. Do you want to change anything at all about that statement?

Mr. RAY. No, I don't want to change that one regardless of how many documents you have up there. I know I didn't return to Atlanta. If I did, I will just take the responsibility for the King case here on TV.

Chairman STOKES. Well, you purchased the rifle on what date?

Mr. RAY. I believe it was April 29, wasn't it? March 29; yes.

Chairman STOKES. And then did you leave Birmingham on the 29th?

Mr. RAY. At one time I thought I did but since reviewing the State's document I left on the 30th, heading toward Memphis.